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# A M E M E N T O FOR ALL Freeholders & Electors OF PARLIAMENT-MEN. 1690.

**T**Hat the *Establishment* of the *Throne* of the best *Princes*, that ever *England* saw; *King William* and *Queen Mary*; the *Peace* and *Tranquility* of this poor *Kingdom*; the quieting of the distracted *Kingdom of Scotland*; the *Reduction* of bleeding *Ireland*, and the security of the whole *Protestant Interest* throughout *Europe*, are highly concerned in the *Elections* for the ensuing *Parliament*; is a truth not to be doubted. The whole rabble of *Anti-christian Furies*, are now combined against all these; The bloody *Papists* and too many mischievous *Instruments* in *Papish Hands*, are at this day most industriously labouring their overthrow, and hoping to see the common Ruine of *Protestants*.

Our gracious *Sovereign*, hath (by the divine Blessing upon his glorious undertaking) delivered our *Church* and *State*; our *Religion*, *Laws* and *Liberties*; our *Estate* and *Lives*; from *Papery* and *Arbitrary Power*; Will it not then seem ungrateful, nay, can it be esteemed less then folly and madness, to the highest degree, to show any secret Reserve or Inclination, to the interest of the late *Abdicated King*? but in all *Ages* there have been ill Men, and We to be sure are not without them now; We have those, who had rather have an *Army* of *French Dragons*, of *Irish Cut-Throats* and *barbarous Highlanders*, in the Bowels of the *Kingdom*; than see us strengthened by a universal affection to the *King*; We have those that murmur at our (nay, at their own) happiness, and at the wonderful Deliverance which *Heaven* has wrought for us; those who are hankering after the *Onions* and *Garlick* of *Egypt*; The Case being thus,

Consider seriously, the danger of throwing away all your lately recover'd *Rights*; & of relapsing into *Papery*, which is a Conspiracy against all the Interests of Mankind; a Combination against good Sense, Reason and Conscience; Be watchful then that you do not again let in this *Common Enemy*; your Well being, your All depends upon the Preservation of the *Government*. If you intend to save it, and poor *England* with it; you must fix your choice upon *Men*, who are well affected, able and bold to serve you in these Respects; therefore let neither *Fear*, *Flattery* nor *Gain* byass you in your *Election*; Our not considering, as we ought, what it is to chuse a *Parliament*, and how much all is upon the hazard

in it; may at last fatally loose us, by our own Choice; If we miscarry, 'twill be our own fault; We have no body else to blame, and what *Man* in his *Wits* would sacrifice his *Throat* to his own hand? If then, being Free, you resolve to continue so; If you have any regard to *God's Providence*; Consider these things.

1<sup>st</sup>. In your present *Election*, make not a Swap of your *Birth right* (and that of your Posterities too) for a *Meass* of *Pottage*; a *Feast* or a *Drinking-bout*; Let no *Mans Bribe* or *Treat* carry your Votes; Turn not *Mercenaries* in a matter, on which depends the Well-being of the whole *Kingdom*; since at a pinch, one good *Man* carries a *Vote* in *Parliament*, and saves the *Nation*: And what doth any *County*, *City* or *Borough-Town* in *England*, know, but all may depend upon their making a good Choice? But then, to sell the *Providence* of *God*, and the dear bought Purchase of your painful *Ancestors*, is the mark of a wretched Mind; He deserves to be cast *Over-board*, that would sink the *Vessel*; and thereby *Drown* the *Company* Embarkt with him.

Honest *Gentlemen* give enough for the Choice, by their constant painful and chargeable Attendance in *Parliament*; and it renders the very Constitution contemptible, that any should say, I can be chosen, if I will spend Money enough; And must We always owe our *Parliaments*, to *Rioting* and *Drunkenness*? Would you be as easie indifferent and Careless; in chusing your *Arbitrators*, in a difference about an *Horse* or a *Cow*? Certainly you would not; with what reason then, can you be unconcerned in the Qualifications of Men, upon whose Fitness and Integrity depends your All?

2<sup>dly</sup>, Chuse not *Vicious* and *Debauched Persons*; Men who give themselves up to Pleasure and Luxury; such as these, are not regular enough to be *Law-Makers*; and besides (should they with well to your Interest) they are commonly idle, and will loose it, rather than their Pleasures; they will not give a close and diligent Attendance in *Parliament*; therefore you may not rely upon them.

3<sup>dly</sup>, Consider the Persons, who served for your *Counties*, *Cities* and *Boroughs*, in the last *Parliament*; compare them, with the *Gentlemen* of your own *Neighbourhood*, that were not *Members*; and then take your Measures of both from their Inclinations; and 'twill not be difficult to fix upon the best *Men* at this critical  
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Conjuncture. To be a little more particular here, Are there not some *Gentlemen* amongst you, who (tho they seemed at first to like the late happy Revolution, yet) did quickly Apostatize, and under the disguise of an Oath to *King William* and *Queen Mary*, crept into *Parliament*, & there opposed the things necessary to our *Establishment*; you of this Generation, who remember not the time, have been oft Bugbear'd with the noise of Forty One, and therefore may with more reason at this day, be cautioned against a more dangerous Number, that of Fifty One; and you ought to know, that the *Enemies* of the *Abdication* of *King James*, do closely link and herd themselves together; and, amongst their other *scantling* *Heathens* upon the *Government*, they value themselves upon that Action, and their Number; and constantly drink to One Hundred Fifty One. If you should make any of these your *Representatives*, you may repent it, when tis too late.

4th, Chuse not any of the *Murdering* *Jury-men*; Neither let your *Votes* go, where they cast theirs; beware also of such Confiding Men, who acted or were known to stand ready lited, under the pay of *Graham* and *Burton*, to serve as *Jury-Men*, to despoil honest Men of their *Liberties* and *Properties*, in the late unhappy *Reigns*; And avoid likewise, the *Betrayers* and *Surrenderers* of your *Charters*; who merited this *Vote* from the late *Parliament* (and may be remembered in the next) that such as had acted in the *Surrenders* of *Charters*, should be incapacitated from bearing Office in the *Barrongs*, and that if any such should sit in any Corporation, after the 25th of March next, he should forfeit 500 l.

5th, That you may not fall into Calamity by those you hate, see that you elect steady Men, Men of *Consistency* and *Courage* to exert themselves for the good of the *King* and *Kingdom*; Men of *Resolutions*, to maintain the *Protestant Interest*, against the united Attempts, of *Hell*, *Rome* and *France*; Men who will take care of the true *Interest* of the *Church* of *England*; and yet be careful not to sacrifice the common *Interest* of the *Protestant Religion*, to that of a party.

*Gentlemen!* Be not deceived, lest your mistake prove fatal, for you have dangerous *Enemies* among your selves; and not to mince the matter, 'tis most certain, that some *Priest-ridden* *Gentlemen* in the late *Parliament*, were the great *Obstacles* of the compleat settlement of the *Kingdom*; therefore, you may not depend upon such who barely, in a flash of *Zeal*, appeared to rant against *Papery*: Nay, further, you are not to rely upon the Oathes of all, who have sworn fidelity to our *King* and *Queen*; for 'tis notorious that some opposed them: what they could even in *Parliament*, and when they found themselves out-cored, in the great point of settling the *Crown*; they conformed (as some *Clergy-men* did at the last hour to keep their *Living*s) and took the *Oath*; and so trim'd it between both *Kings*; with design to secure themselves with either; But you will do well to consider, the bent and tendency of the *Conversations*, of

those for whom your *Votes* are solicited; for Nature is Nature, and I'll return and have the better; and an *Abhorrer* of *Parliaments*, or a *Champion* for a *Papish Successor* or a *Papish King*, can scarce without a miraculous change upon him, make a good *Parliament-Man* in the present *Conjuncture*. Therefore, passing by those, who are under the direction or influence of any of that small Number of the *Squeamish Conscience'd Clergy-men*, who could not (or did not without reluctance) take the *Oath* to our *gracious King* and *Queen*; see that you Vote for such, as cheerfully swore Fidelity to the *Government*, under which *Heaven* hath so mercifully placed us; and who, you have reason to believe, will with their *Votes* and *Lives*, support it; And as you value your own *Lives* and all that is desirable in *Life*; have a care that you be not again betrayed into *Papish* hands; to enforce this; allow me to close with the memorable Story of *Queen Mary*.

In the dawning of the *Reformation*, that most incomparable Prince, *King Edward* the 6th, nominated a most excellent *Protestant Lady*, the *Lady Jane Grey*, to succeed him upon the *Throne*; whom a great *Historian* thus describes, She was a very extraordinary Person, both for Body & Mind She had learned both the *Greek* & *Latine* Tongues, to great perfection; and delighted much in Study; She drank in the Precepts of true Philosophy, so early, that as She was not tainted with the Levities, nor to say, Vices, of those of her Age and Condition; so She seemed to have attained to the Practice of the highest Notions of philosophy: This excellent Lady, was proclaimed *Queen*, upon the death of that most pious *Protestant King*: Thereupon, the *Lady Mary* retired to *Framlingham* in *Suffolk*, where most of the People were for the *Reformation*; but a great body of the easie *Gentlemen* of that County, came to her, and asked her, If She would promise not to alter the Religion set up in *King Edward's* days; She assured them, She would make no Change; but should be content with the private exercise of her own Religion; and thereupon, they all vowed they would Live and Dye with her; Accordingly, they advance her to the *Throne*, and *Queen Jane* to a *Crown* of *Martyrdom*, but marke the end hereof.

*Queen Mary's* Temper and Principles were fierce and severe, She preferred the bloody Councils of *Bishop Gardener* and *Bishop Bonner*, to the milder and better Methods which other Counsellors proposed: She gave her self up, to follow all the Distates and Humours of the *Clergy*; and as the same *Historian* hath it, A few more sort of Vertues, and a melancholick Pity, are the best things can be said of her. Not to detain the Reader in comparing the Characters, with those of the *Abdicated King*, and of our present *gracious Queen*; I shall conclude with one Word of *Queen Mary's* treatment and return to those who brought her to the *Crown*: The *Suffolk* *Gentlemen*, thought their Services, and the *Queen's* promises, gave them a title to own their Religion more a while; but being prosecuted for so doing, some of those that had merited most, came and put her in mind of her promise, but the claim thereof was made a Crime; she told them, they must learn to obey, and not pretend to govern her; and one that spake more confidently than the rest, was set in the Pillory for it, three dayes; as having defamed the *Queen*, by minning her of her promise: Let *Suffolk*, & all *English-men*, conclude from hence, that as certainly as Nature will be Nature; *Papery* is still the same, and the Serpent tho' mangled, will never dye, as long as his Head is whole.